

United States Patent and Trademark Office

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE United States Patent and Trademark Office Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.		
10/661,265	09/12/2003	Ramanathan T. Jagadeesan	062891.1177	7796		
5073 75	590 02/15/2005	EXAMINER				
BAKER BOTTS L.L.P. 2001 ROSS AVENUE			CUMMING, WILLIAM D			
SUITE 600	LIVOL	ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER			
DALLAS, TX	75201-2980	2683	2683			

DATE MAILED: 02/15/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

		Application No.		Applicant(s)	-		
Office Action Summary		10/661,265		JAGADEESAN & NGUYEN			
		Examiner		Art Unit			
		WILLIAM D CUN	IMING	2683			
The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address Period for Reply							
A SHORTENED STATUTORY THE MAILING DATE OF THIS Extensions of time may be available under after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing da If the period for reply specified above is lee If NO period for reply is specified above, the Failure to reply within the set or extended Any reply received by the Office later than earned patent term adjustment. See 37 C	COMMUNICATION. the provisions of 37 CFR 1.13 te of this communication. ss than thirty (30) days, a reply e maximum statutory period w period for reply will, by statute, three months after the mailing	36(a). In no event, how within the statutory min will apply and will expire cause the application t	ever, may a reply be time nimum of thirty (30) days SIX (6) MONTHS from to become ABANDONED	ely filed will be considered time the mailing date of this c O (35 U.S.C. § 133).			
Status							
1) Responsive to communic	ation(s) filed on						
2a) ☐ This action is FINAL.	2b)⊠ This	action is non-fin	al.				
	Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under <i>Ex parte Quayle</i> , 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.						
Disposition of Claims	•		, .				
4) ⊠ Claim(s) <u>1-59</u> is/are pend 4a) Of the above claim(s) 5) □ Claim(s) is/are allo 6) □ Claim(s) is/are reject 7) □ Claim(s) is/are obj 8) ⊠ Claim(s) <u>1-59</u> are subject	is/are withdrav wed. ected. ected to.	vn from consider					
Application Papers					,		
9) The specification is object	ed to by the Examine	r.	•				
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.							
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).							
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d). 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.							
Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119							
 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f). a) All b) Some * c) None of: 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received. 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received. 							
Attachment(s)							
 Notice of References Cited (PTO-892 Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Draw 		4) 🗌	Interview Summary Paper No(s)/Mail Da				
Information Disclosure Statement(s) (Paper No(s)/Mail Date				atent Application (PT	O-152)		

Art Unit: 2683 2/11/2005 3:22 PM Election Restriction.doc

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

- 1. This application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention:
 - a. The tuning a control to change a value of the hysteresis margin.
 - b. The tuning a control to change a value of the drop count duration.
 - c. The tuning a control to change a value of the dwell timer.
 - d. The controller, means, code and monitoring a quality of a first link between a mobile station and a WLAN comprises monitoring a WLAN metric.
 - e. The controller and monitoring a quality of a first link between a mobile station and a WLAN comprises monitoring a plurality of WLAN metrics.
 - f. The controller and monitoring a plurality of WLAN metric comprises determining a scalar value comprising a function of a plurality of WLAN metrics.
 - g. The controller, means, code, and monitoring a quality of a second link. _____
 between the mobile station and a cellular network comprises monitoring a cellular
 metric.
 - h. The WLAN metric comprises one of a group of metrics.
 - i. The WLAN metric comprises a quality of service parameter.

Election Restriction.doc

Art Unit: 2683 2/11/2005 3:22 PM

2. Applicants are required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. Currently, claims 1-3, 7, 9-11, 16-24, 32-38, 40, and 42 are generic.

- 3. Applicants are advised that a reply to this requirement must include an identification of the species that is elected consonant with this requirement, and a listing of all claims readable thereon, including any claims subsequently added. An argument that a claim is allowable or that all claims are generic is considered nonresponsive unless accompanied by an election.
- 4. Upon the allowance of a generic claim, applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim as provided by 37 CFR 1.141. If claims are added after the election, applicant must indicate which are readable upon the elected species. MPEP § 809.02(a).

Art Unit: 2683 2/11/2005 3:22 PM Election Restriction.doc

5. Should applicants traverse on the ground that the species are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the species to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of the other invention.

- 6. Applicants are advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).
- 7. Applicants are reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

Art Unit: 2683 2/11/2005 3:22 PM Election Restriction.doc

Information Disclosure Statement

8. The listing of references in the specification is not a proper information disclosure statement. 37 CFR 1.98(b) requires a list of all patents, publications, or other information submitted for consideration by the Office, and MPEP § 609 A(1) states, "the list may not be incorporated into the specification but must be submitted in a separate paper." Therefore, unless the references have been cited by the examiner on form PTO-892, they have not been considered.

9. Waiver of the Copy Requirement in 37 CFR 1.98 for Cited Pending U.S. Patent Applications

37 CFR 1.98 requires that for each cited pending U.S. patent application, an information disclosure statement (IDS) include a legible copy of the application specification, including the claims, and any drawing of the application, or that portion of the application which caused it to be listed, including any claims, directed to that portion. See 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(iii).

The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) has been scanning newly filed patent applications and the existing inventory of patent applications into USPTO's Image File Wrapper (IFW) system since June of 2003. See Notification of United States Patent and Trademark Office Patent Application Records being Stored and Processed in Electronic Form, 1271 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 100 (June 17, 2003). Applications stored in the IFW system may be viewed by examiners on their desktop computers. Consequently, there is no longer a need to require a copy of the specification, including claims, and drawings of a U.S. patent application (or portion of the application) listed on an IDS when the cited application is stored in the USPTO's IFW system, and can be readily viewed by examiners, applicants and members of the public.

Therefore, the requirement in 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(iii) for a legible copy of the specification, including the claims, and drawings of each cited pending U.S. patent application (or portion of the application which caused it to be listed) is *sua sponte* waived where the cited pending application is stored in the USPTO's IFW system. <u>See</u> 37 CFR 1.183. This waiver is effective immediately.

Applications filed under 35 U.S.C. § 111 on or after June 30, 2003, and international applications that have entered the national stage on or after June 30, 2003, have been or are being scanned into the USPTO's IFW system. When citing to a pending application filed under 35 U.S.C. § 111 before June 30, 2003, or that entered the national stage before June 30, 2003, the applicant may check the private Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) System to see

Art Unit: 2683 2/11/2005 3:22 PM Election Restriction.doc

whether the application is stored in the USPTO's IFW system in order to determine if a copy of the application (or portion of the application) is required to be provided with an IDS. The private PAIR System can be accessed over the Office's Internet Web site (www.uspto.gov).

Page 6

When citing to a pending U.S. patent application that has been published under 35 U.S.C. § 122(b) (eighteen-month publication), the USPTO prefers that the citation be to the patent application publication (by publication number) rather than to the application itself (by application number).

This waiver is limited to the specification, including the claims, and drawings in the U.S. application (or portion of the application). If material other than the specification, including the claims, and drawings in the file of a U.S. patent application is being cited in an IDS, the IDS must contain a legible copy of such material. See 37 CFR 1.98(a)(1)(iv).

Inquiries concerning this notice may be directed to Jeanne M. Clark, Senior Legal Advisor, Office of Patent Legal Administration, at (703) 306-5603.

Conclusion

10. Replacement Notice: Copies of Patent Application Records will be Provided in both Electronic and Paper Form

The Official Gazette notice, published on August 24, 2004 entitled "All Electronic Copies of Patent Application Records Will Now Be Provided as Certified Copies in Electronic Form" (1285 Off. Gaz. Pat. Off, August 24, 2004) is hereby rescinded. The USPTO is reinstating, until further notice, the procedures in effect prior to July 30, 2004 for providing certified copies of patent application records with paper certification statements. The USPTO will also offer electronic certified copies of patent application records at the requester's option.

Certified Copies with Paper Certification

Unless otherwise requested, certified copies of patent application records provided pursuant to 37 CFR 1.19 (b) will be produced with a paper certification statement, continuing the practice in effect prior to July 30, 2004. The certification statement will include an embossed seal and original signature.

Certified Copies with Electronic Certification

Customers ordering certified copies of patent applications as filed or patent-related file wrapper and contents of published applications from the USPTO website will have the option to choose electronic copies with electronic certification. These files include an imaged certification statement as part of a PDF file containing the document TIFF images. These electronic files are digitally signed by the USPTO for authenticity and integrity, and cannot be undetectably modified. Customers may choose to download these electronic files from the USPTO website or receive them on compact disc.

Page 7

Election Restriction doc

Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property and Priority

Irrespective of whether the USPTO provides a paper certified copy or an electronic certified copy, Article 4(d)(3) of the Paris Convention prohibits any country that is a member of the convention from requiring further authentication of the certified copy for purposes of claiming priority under the Paris Convention. (The text of the Paris Convention and a list of its members are available at www.wipo.int/treaties/en/ip/paris/index.html.)

The USPTO is working with other intellectual property offices to encourage the acceptance of priority documents in electronic form with electronic certification. A list of offices and international intellectual property organizations that have agreed to accept electronic certified copies will be posted on the USPTO website soon, and updated regularly.

Questions should be directed to the Office of Public Records by email to opr@uspto.gov or by telephone at (703) 308-9743.

11. Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2005 enacted on December 8, 2004

H.R. 4818, the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2005 (Consolidated Appropriations Act) was signed by President George W. Bush and enacted into law on December 8, 2004. The Consolidated Appropriations Act revises certain patent application and maintenance fees; provides separate fees for a basic filing fee, a search fee, and an examination fee; and requires an additional fee for any patent application whose specification and drawings exceed 100 sheets of paper (application size fee). The new patent fees are now effective and will remain in effect during the remainder of fiscal year 2005 and during fiscal year 2006. The patent maintenance fee changes apply to any maintenance fee payment made on or after December 8, 2004, regardless of the filing or issue date of the patent for which the fee is submitted. The revised maintenance fees took effect on December 8, 2004. Thus, any maintenance fee paid at any time on (or after) December 8, 2004 is subject to the revised maintenance fee amounts set forth in the Consolidated Appropriations Act.

Note: If you are paying via the USPTO's Internet Web site, there will likely be a delay in updating the maintenance-fee information on the USPTO's Office of Finance On-Line Shopping Web page. Therefore, if paying on-line, please refer to the updated fee schedule to ensure that you include the appropriate updated fee amount. Maintenance fees must be timely paid in the appropriate amount to avoid expiration of a patent.

The new basic filing fee (or national fee), search fee, examination fee, and application size fee apply to national patent applications (other than provisional applications) filed on or after December 8, 2004, and to international patent applications in which the basic national fee is paid on or after December 8, 2004. The new provisional application filing fee applies to any provisional application filing fee paid on or after December 8, 2004. The filing fee (or national fee), search fee, and examination fee are due on filing. If the filing fee (or national fee) is paid on filing, but the search fee and/or examination fee is missing, the USPTO will issue a notice requiring that any missing search fee and examination fee (but no surcharge until further notice) be paid within a specified period of time in order to avoid abandonment. Thus, if at least the full basic filing fee under the Consolidated Appropriations Act is paid on or after December 8, 2004, the USPTO will issue a notice requiring any balance of the search fee and the examination fee (but no surcharge).

The remaining patent application fee changes, including the excess claims fees, extension of time fees, and

The remaining patent application fee changes, including the excess claims fees, extension of time fees, and appeal fees, apply to any fee payment made on or after December 8, 2004, regardless of the filing date of the application for which the fee is submitted.

Art Unit: 2683 2/11/2005 3:22 PM

Election Restriction.doc

USPTO customers should monitor the USPTO's Internet Web site frequently for current patent fee information.

Payments from foreign countries must be payable and immediately negotiable in the United States for the full amount of the fee required.

12. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **WILLIAM D CUMMING** whose telephone number is 703-305-4394. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Tuesday and Thursday 10:30am to 8:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, WILLIAM TROST can be reached on 703-308-5318. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Application/Control Number: 10/661,265

Art Unit: 2683 2/11/2005 3:22 PM

Election Restriction.doc

Page 9

13. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

WILLIAM D CUMMIN Primary Examine Art Unit 2683

Wdc



UNITED STATES
PATENT AND
TRADEMARK OFFICE

William Cumming

Primary Patent Examiner (703) 305-4394 (703) 746-6075 Fax william.cumming@uspto.gov